ORIGIN/ACTION

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RM/R	REP	AF
1		
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA 7	CU	INR 5
E	P 2	IO
L	GPM 1	AID
MC 1	O/FSI 1	S/P 1
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR 5
ARMY 3	CIA 20	NAVY 5
OSD 33	USIA 10	NSA 3
		NSC 6

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AIRGRAM

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TO : Department of State

INFO : Amembassy ATHENS, ROME(3)
Amconsul FLORENCE, GENOA, MILAN, PALERMO, TRIESTE, TURIN
AFSE/SLO

FROM : Amconsul NAPLES

DATE: April 28, 1967

SUBJECT : Neapolitans React Negatively to Political Developments in Greece

REF :

Most Neapolitans reacted negatively to the seizure of power by the Greek Army, although the majority of the political leaders have limited themselves to lamenting the events as a "blow to democracy" and offering moral support to the Greek people. The Naples Provincial Council passed a resolution deploring the situation in Greece and pledging solidarity with the Greek people in their search to reestablish democracy in that country. A PCI attempt to entice the Naples City Council to express a similar resolution was nipped in the bud when Mayor Giovanni PRINCIPE refused to recognize the PCI motion on grounds that the City Council has no jurisdiction to become involved in international affairs (and thus set a precedent for discussion of Viet-Nam, an issue which Principe has successfully kept off the floor of the City Council). Indeed, Monarchists and Fascists were the only supporters of the recent coup, which they publically interpreted as a pre-emptive military takeover, necessary in the face of a planned Communist uprising against the Greek State.

On April 22, a large number of the over 300 Greek students who are studying in the Naples area, supported by PCI youths, held a protest demonstration before the Greek Consulate. Shouting anti-military and anti-King Constantine chants, as well as bearing banners with similar slogans, the demonstrators were quickly scattered by local police authorities after several minor incidents. A sign with the number 114 was placed prominently over the entrance to the headquarters of the Greek-Italian Association, referring to Article 114 of the Greek Constitution (constitutional liberty).

There was further rioting following a large (authorized) meeting on April 25 (the 22nd anniversary of the "Italian Liberation") sponsored by the Naples Communist Youth Federation (FGCI). The rally had been initially billed as an anti-U.S. Viet-Nam demonstration, but turned into a "Parade for the Freedom of Viet-Nam and Greece" following the developments in Greece. Violent

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Contents and Classification Approved by:

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36

Action NEA

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CORRECTION ISSUED 10/9/63 9:45 a.m. L.M.S.

Control: 6376

Rec'd: October 8, 1963 6:07 p.m.

FROM: Athens - CORRECTED COPY

POL 14

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 563, October 8, 9 p.m. (SECTION TWO OF TWO)

1963 OCT 9 PM 2 25 NEA MESSAGE CENTER

ACTION DEPARTMENT 563, INFORMATION TESSALONIKI UNNUMBERED.

Reference: (A) EMBTEL 554; (B) Thessaloniki 39.

There were no major surprises in list candidates and rumors of addition "major personalities" to CU ranks failed materialize although party did pick up additional Progressive deputy -- A. Manolopoulos, Kavalla -- in addition to Vassilatos reported REFTEL (A). While all CU 1961 deputies included its list, 8 deputies from previous Parliament including former Welfare Minister Stratos, missing from ERE list.

Comment: Fact large and enthusiastic crowd turned out in Thessaloniki for Caramanlis's speech, although not unexpected, undoubtedly gave boost in arm ERE campaign particularly in view fact Thessaloniki center Lambrakis "affair." Caramanlis, returning to political arena in his own Macedonia, used opportunity to strike back at detractors and indicated readiness to wage hard-hitting campaign. In this connection he deplored CU exploitation of "horrible Lambrakis crime" which he said encouraged international attacks on Greece. He emphasized that Justice going ahead on Lambrakis case and he noted that all parties had decried crime at time its occurrence.

Significant aspect of speech is attention devoted to education. Indication that Caramanlis determined to carry through much needed educational reforms shown by his pledge that if elected he would be personally responsible for seeing reforms implemented. Also significant is fact that Caramanlis apparently determined make

POL 14 GREECE

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NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE OF ACTION	DIRECTIONS TO RM/R

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harangues delivered by FGCI National Secretary, Claudio PETRUCCIOLI and PCI Federal Deputy Massimo CAPRARA to approximately 1,500 young people - university students, young workers and beatniks - aroused the emotions of the crowd. After hearing how the U.S. was responsible for the Greek situation and how the Sixth Fleet was in Piraeus supporting the military, after being lectured repeatedly on U.S. aggression and atrocities in Viet-Nam and after seeing an image of President Johnson burned on the speakers' platform, the youths were stirred to march anew on the Greek Consulate where they were met by a heavily reinforced police cordon. The authorities ordered the marchers to disband, and when the crowd surged forward, the carabinieri, together with local police, began swinging at the demonstrators. The protesting students fell back to be met by a group of fascist youths holding a demonstration of their own, in support of the coup in Greece. The resulting melee was finally dispersed with injuries sustained by all groups involved, and over 25 youths detained. L'Unita, of course, denounced the police brutality and accused the police of cooperating with the Fascists. Naples public security forces, on the other hand, girded themselves for further incidents as the May 1st Labor Day celebration nears.

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